



# SIMPLE PAST VS PRESENT PERFECT



# How do these two categories of sentences differ?

- Have you **ever** visited Mexico?
- I have **never** seen snow.
- I have **already** seen that movie; Jack hasn't seen it **yet**.
- Ann started a letter to her parents last week, but she **still** hasn't finished it yet.
- Alex feels bad. He has **just** heard some bad news.

- We have had four tests **so far** this semester.
- I have written my wife an email every day **for** the last two weeks.
- I have met many people **since** I came here in February.
- I have flown on an airplane **many times**.

# Present Perfect : Explained

- Have you **ever** visited Mexico?
  - I have **never** seen snow.
  - I have **already** seen that movie; Jack hasn't seen it **yet**.
  - Ann started a letter to her parents last week, but she **still** hasn't finished it yet.
  - Alex feels bad. He has **just** heard some bad news.
- The present perfect expresses the idea that something happened (or never happened) before now, **at an unspecified time in the past**.
  - The exact time it happened is not important.
  - ***ever, never, already, yet, still, just*** are frequently used with the present perfect.

# Present Perfect : Explained

- The present perfect also expresses **completed actions before now**.
  - The exact time of each repetition is unimportant.
  - *So far, for, since, many times* are frequently used with the present perfect.
  - It answers the question 'how many /much'
- We have had four tests **so far** this semester.
  - I have written my wife an email every day **for** the last two weeks.
  - I have met many people **since** I came here in February.
  - I have flown on an airplane **many times**.

# PRESENT PERFECT vs SIMPLE PAST

- Tom has lost his key. He can't get into the house.

- Tom lost his key yesterday. He couldn't get into the house.

- It hasn't rained yet.

- It didn't rain last week.

- Have you seen Ann recently?


- Did you see Ann on Sunday?

# The Differences : Explained

- Tom has lost his key.  
He can't get into the house.

- It hasn't rained this week.

- Have you seen Ann recently?

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- The present perfect may or may not be a completed action but it always has a connection with now
  - There is also no specific time mentioned.

# The Differences : Explained

The simple past indicates that an activity or situation began and ended at a particular time in the past.



- Tom lost his key yesterday. He couldn't get into the house.

- It didn't rain last week.

- Did you see Ann on Sunday?

# How do you form the present perfect?

- **Positive Statement:**

S + has / have + past participle (PP) + O.

- **Negative Statement:**

S + has not / have not + PP + O.

- **Yes/No Question:**

Has / have + S + PP + O?

- **Wh-Question:**

Wh-word + has / have + S + PP + O?